

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISTANB 02595 211339Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 MCT-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /083 W
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FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 280
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISTANBUL 2595

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IR, TU
SUBJ: IRANIAN STUDENT PROTEST

1. ON AUGUST 19, FEDERATION OF IRANIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS
SPONSORED AN "IRAN-TURKEY PEOPLES SOLIDARITY DAY" IN ISTANBUL.
MAIN EVENT WAS RALLY ATTENDED BY SOME 2,000 PERSONS AT LARGE
OUTDOOR NIGHT CLUB NEAR CONSULATE GENERAL. THERE WAS NO
VIOLENCE ASSOCIATED WITH OBSERVANCE OF "SOLIDARITY DAY"
WHICH CAME ON 25TH ANIVERSARY OF REVOLT WHICH RESTORED ROYALISTS
TO POWER IN IRAN.

2. IRANIAN CONSUL GENERAL CONFIRMED THAT THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS
OVERWEEKEND AT ANY OF HIS COUNTRY'S FACILITIES IN ISTANBUL AND
NOTED THAT MOST OF 1,000 IRANIAN STUDENTS STUDYING IN CITY ARE
HOME ON SUMMER VACATION. SEVERAL IRANIAN STUDENTS IN MASKS,
HOWEVER, REPORTEDLY ADDRESSED AUGUST 19 GATHERING.

3. TONE OF EVENT, WHICH ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPERS WAS SUPPORTED
BY SEVERAL UNIDENTIFIED LOCAL LEFTIST ORGANIZATIONS, WAS
DISTINCTLY ANTI-AMERICAN. POSTERS SCATTERED AROUND TOWN
CALLED FOR END OF "CIA-FASCIST SHAH'S REGIME." NEWSPAPERS
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REPORT THAT THOSE ATTENDING RALLY CONDEMNED "U.S. IMPERIALISM'S"
SUPPORT OF ITS "FASCIST PUPPET". THEY ALSO PROTESTED
COOPERATION BETWEEN TURKISH AND IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE
ORGANIZATIONS.

4. COMMENT: INDICATIONS ARE THAT ORGANIZERS OF
"SOLIDARITY DAY" HAD PLANNED OTHER EVENTS AND HAD ANTICIPATED

LARGER TURNOUT. LOCAL AUTHORITIES APPEAR TO
HAVE DENIED PERMISSION FOR MORE ELABORATE CELEBRATION, AND
POLICE TOLD US THEY HAD OBJECTED TO ONE TURKISH
RADICAL'S PARTICIPATION IN NIGHT CLUB RALLY. WHETHER
BECAUSE OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES' RESTRICTIONS OR LACK OF
ENTHUSIASM FOR CAUSE, EVENT WAS LOW-KEY AND RECEIVED MINIMAL
PUBLICITY.
HOUGHTON

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NNN

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